



The American Library  
United States Consulate General, Chennai



## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



March 2012

### *Women's Education – Women's Empowerment*

#### **Women's History Month**

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

#### **2012 National Women's History Month Theme: Women's Education – Women's Empowerment**

Although women now outnumber men in American colleges nationwide, the reversal of the gender gap is a very recent phenomenon. The fight to learn was a valiant struggle waged by many tenacious women—across years and across cultures—in our country. After the American Revolution, the notion of education as a safeguard for democracy created opportunities for girls to gain a basic education—based largely on the premise that, as mothers, they would nurture not only the bodies but also the minds of (male) citizens and leaders. The concept that educating women meant educating mothers endured in America for many years, at all levels of education... [more](#)

#### **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, 2012: A PROCLAMATION**

*by the President of the United States of America*

As Americans, ours is a legacy of bold independence and passionate belief in fairness and justice for all. For generations, this intrepid spirit has driven women pioneers to challenge injustices and shatter ceilings in pursuit of full and enduring equality. During Women's History Month, we commemorate their struggles, celebrate centuries of progress, and reaffirm our steadfast commitment to the rights, security, and dignity of women in America and around the world ... [Read More](#)



## Resources from the American Libraries in India

[American experience: Fly girls](#) (Video) written, produced and directed by Laurel Ladevich  
Publisher: [Boston, Mass.]: WGBH, 2006  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai

[All the presidents' wives](#) (Video) produced by Greystone Communications, Inc. for A & E Network ; written and produced by Martin Gillam.  
Publisher: New York: A & E Home Video, 2008.  
Call Number: DVD 973.0992 ALL  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai

[Bold women, big ideas: learning to play the high-risk entrepreneurial game](#) / Kay Koplovitz with Peter Israel.  
Publisher: New York: PublicAffairs, c2002.  
Call Number: 658.114 KOP  
Chennai /Kolkata/Mumbai

[Eleanor Roosevelt](#)/written and directed by Sue Williams  
Publisher: [Arlington, VA] : PBS Home Video, c2005.  
Call Number: DVD 973.917 ROO  
Chennai /Mumbai

[Gendertalk works \(if you do it right\) : 7 steps for cracking the gender code at work](#) / Connie Glaser.  
Publisher: New York, NY : Windsor Hall Press, c2011  
Call Number: 658.45 GLA  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai

[Having it all? Black women and success](#) / Veronica Chambers.  
Publisher: New York : Doubleday, c2003.  
Call Number: 650.1 CHA  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai

[Ingrid Bergman](#) / David Thomson  
Publisher: New York : Faber and Faber, Inc., 2010.  
Call Number: 791.43028 BER  
Chennai

[Maya Angelou: a creative and courageous voice](#) / Jill Egan.  
Publisher: Pleasantville, NY: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2009.  
Call Number: 818.5409 ANG  
Chennai /Delhi

[Michelle Obama : a portrait of the First Lady](#) / editors of Life Magazine.  
Publisher: New York: Time Inc. Home Entertainment , c2009.  
Call Number: 973.932 OBA

Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai  
[Off-ramps and on-ramps: keeping talented women on the road to success](#) / Sylvia Ann Hewlett.  
Publisher: Boston, Mass. : Harvard Business School Press, c2007.  
Call Number: 658.312082 HEW  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata/Mumbai

[Reading Oprah : how Oprah's book club changed the way America reads](#) / Cecilia Konchar Farr.  
Publisher: Albany: State University of New York Press, c2005.  
Call Number: 813.5409 OPR  
Chennai /Mumbai

[Reclaiming class: women, poverty, and the promise of higher education in America](#) / edited by Vivyan C. Adair and Sandra L. Dahlberg.  
Publisher: Philadelphia : Temple University Press, 2003  
Call Number: 378.19826 REC  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata

[Remember the ladies : 100 great American women](#) / Cheryl Harness.  
Publisher: New York: Scholastic, 2002, c2001.  
Call Number: CHI 305.4 HAR  
Chennai /Delhi/Kolkata

[Rosa Parks](#) / Mary Hull.  
Publisher: [New York]: Chelsea House, c1994.  
Call Number: CHI 323 PAR  
Chennai /Delhi /Mumbai

[Silent spring / Rachel Carson](#)  
Publisher: Boston, MA : Houghton Mifflin , 1962.  
Call Number: 632 CAR  
Chennai /Kolkata

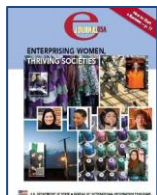
[Twelve best books by African women : critical readings](#) / edited by Chikwenye Okonjo Ogunyemi and Tuzyline Jita Allan.  
Publisher: Athens : Ohio University Press, c2009.  
Call Number: 823.91 TWE  
Chennai

[When everything changed: the amazing journey of American women from 1960 to the present](#) / Gail Collins.  
Publisher: New York: Little, Brown and Co, 2009.  
Call Number: 305.4 COL  
Chennai /Delhi

**For more resources, please check our online catalog: <http://amlibindia.state.gov>**

## Resources from the Bureau of International Information Programs

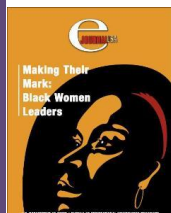
(Please click on the publications/links to read the contents)



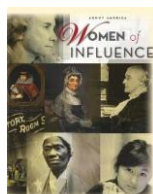
This issue of eJournal USA encourages women to pursue their entrepreneurial ambitions. It cites the experiences of businesswomen around the world and features successful women entrepreneurs who can serve as role models. It also identifies barriers and best practices for overcoming them.



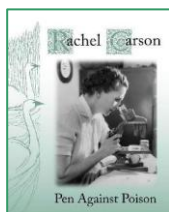
This issue of eJournal USA explores how international organizations, state governments, the private sector and individuals — in many different countries — are promoting education for women and girls and are improving people's lives.



This eJournal USA profiles African-American women of the 20th and 21st centuries who have made significant contributions to many spheres of American life. It also offers insights into how earlier generations of African-American women serve as touchstones for the present generation.



This collection chronicles how 21 notable American women broke new ground, some by championing equal rights for all and others by their accomplishments in fields such as government, literature, and even in war.



Rachel Carson was a quiet woman who stirred extraordinary controversy that persists decades after her death. Her 1962 book *Silent Spring* brought worldwide attention to the harm to human health and the environment wrought by mishandling of a powerful pesticide. This publication examines how occasionally in history a book with a powerful idea can bring about peaceful but dramatic change in a democratic society.

***Break the Silence to End Violence against Women...*** [More](#)

### ***USAID Launches New Gender Policy***

01 March 2012 - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is launching a new policy to better integrate gender equality and female empowerment throughout its activities. ... [More](#)

### ***Overview: Human Rights of Women***

28 February 2012 - Human rights and fundamental freedoms should be birthrights, but across the globe some countries fail to accord human rights to women. Moreover, women are often victims of human rights abuses. ... [More](#)

### ***Solutions to Global Challenges Require Women's Participation***

27 February 2012 - In April 2009, Melanne Verveer was appointed ambassador-at-large for global women's issues by President Obama to promote women's empowerment in U.S. foreign policy. She shares her passion for achieving the political, economic and social empowerment of women in this interview. ... [More](#)

#### **Secretary Clinton: Supporting Women's Entrepreneurship**

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks on supporting women's entrepreneurship at a meeting of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ... [Checkout the video](#)

#### **You go, girls!**

In honor of Women's History Month, U.S. Consul General Jennifer McIntyre recognizes the "extraordinary achievements and contributions of the U.S. and Indian women employees at the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai ... [Checkout the video](#)

**[Photo gallery: Great Women of the Twentieth Century](#)**







## Related Online Resources:



The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of women whose commitment to nature and the planet have proved invaluable to society. <http://womenshistorymonth.gov/>



The National Women's History Project, founded in 1980, is an educational nonprofit organization. Our mission is to recognize and celebrate the diverse and historic accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials and programs. <http://www.nwhp.org/>



Get to know the women who've changed our world. [http://www.gale.cengage.com/free\\_resources/whm/](http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/whm/)



An interesting Kids website which provides a number of facts, activities and much more on Women's History Month. <http://www.timeforkids.com/minisite/womens-history-month>

### National Women's History Month Celebrating women's contributions to America



I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.

- Rosa Parks



In every out-thrust headland, in every curving beach, in every grain of sand, there is the story of the earth.

- Rachel Carson



Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail their failure must be but a challenge to others

- Amelia Earhart



"When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you until it seems that you cannot hold on for a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time when the tide will turn."

- Harriet Beecher Stowe



My philosophy is that not only are you responsible for your life, but doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment..

- Oprah Winfrey





## About the AMERICAN LIBRARY, CHENNAI



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**Hours: Monday to Saturday,  
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- ✦ Loan renewals can be requested in person, by phone or by email.
- ✦ In addition, members can request inter library loans from American Libraries in India
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- ✦ General access to the Library is free.

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All visitors are requested to conform to security regulations and produce a valid photo Identification (ID) at the entrance. Acceptable photo IDs are: passport, driver's license, voter ID card, Permanent Account Number (PAN Card), government/ employer issued ID, or school/college/university issued ID. The American Center will only accept original IDs and not photocopies.



*To access scholarly material, we recommend  
going beyond Google and accessing  
**eLibraryUSA***

It is the American library's newly added set of carefully selected databases of authoritative and continually updated information.

**<http://elibraryusa.state.gov/>**

We give below a sample of the databases which form a part of eLibraryUSA.



Individual members of the Library are provided with remote access to eLibraryUSA. To access them please visit the American Library or write to us at: [chennairefdesk@state.gov](mailto:chennairefdesk@state.gov)